



**Homeland
Security**

U.S. COAST GUARD
MSO St. Louis

Safety Zone Standards For Vessel Traffic

Illinois River
Mile Marker 50.0 – 176.0

[Recreational vessels are discouraged from transiting the area](#)

Implementation Phase

Line Boats

- Assess adequate bridge clearance and approaches well prior to approaching all bridges.
- Navigate at the slowest safe speed based on prevailing conditions so as to minimize wake damage to levees, fleeting areas, and private property.
- Favor the center of the navigation channel.
- Do not lay-up on levees.
- Report all high water concerns to the Coast Guard at (319) 524-7511.
- Use extreme caution in passing situations.
- Pre-identify areas for laying-up in preparation for river closure.
- Fleeting arrangements must be made prior to transiting the Illinois River.

Fleeters

- Coordinate emergency assistance with adjacent facilities.
- Increase frequency of monitoring fleeting areas.
- Provide 24-hour assist tugs for each fleeting area.
- Review anchoring configurations and limit the number of barges/tonnage to correspond with anchor holding capability as water levels rise.
- Assess your lines and mooring arrangements periodically and double up lines as needed.

Safety Zone Standards For Vessel Traffic

Illinois River Mile Marker 50.0 – 199.0

Emergency Phase

- All line boats are to cease movement and lay-up safely. After lay-up, line boats are to report their location and status to the Inland River Vessel Movement Information Center (IRVMIC) at 1-866-442-6089. After initial status report, line boats are to update their status to IRVMIC once daily between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. thereafter. If telephone service is unavailable, vessels may contact Group Upper Mississippi River on VHF channel 16.
- Fleeting vessels may continue to operate but are to exercise extra caution in order to avoid wake damage.